

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOCKET NUMBER	ANTICIPATED CLASSIFICATION OF THIS APPLICATION:		PRIOR APPLICATION	
	CLASS	SUBCLASS	EXAMINER	ART UNIT
10873.0577USC1			Brian E. Miller	2652

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV347845025US

Date of Deposit: March 26, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:

Name: Teresa Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) and § 1.98(d), copies have been provided only for those items listed on the enclosed Form 1449 that have not previously been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/673919 filed on October 23, 2000.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

Enclosed is a copy of the Japanese Office Action citing JP 7-210915.

Enclosed is a copy of JP 7-210915 with partial translation.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

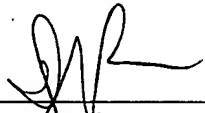


Dated: March 26, 2004

DPM:mmm

Respectfully submitted,

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By   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.0577USC1	Application Number: filed here within
	Applicant: MURAKAMI et al.	
	Filing Date: filed here within	Group Art Unit: 2652

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 5,663,937	09/2/1997	TAKAHASHI			
	US 5,590,095	12/31/1996	CHAYA			
	US 5,604,719	02/18/1997	KAKIMOTO et al.			
	US 5,657,300	Aug. 1997	TAKAHASHI			
	US 3,349,384	Oct. 1967	KOHN			
	US 4,189,759	Feb. 1980	BAUCK et al.			
	US 4,328,521	May 1982	PEXTON et al.			
	US 4,343,025	Aug. 1982	KRONFELD et al.			
	US 4,724,500	Feb. 1988	DALZIEL			
	US 5,126,903	June 1992	MATSUZAKI			
	US 5,184,263	Feb. 1993	FUKAKUSA et al.			
	US 5,467,237	Nov. 1995	TAKAHASHI			
	US 5,910,867	June 1999	TAKAHASHI			
	US 5,367,419	Nov. 1994	KAZAMA			
	US 6,088,202	July 2000	KABASAWA et al.			
	US 6,212,044	April 2001	MURAKAMI et al.			
	US 6,233,121	May 2001	PAN			
	US 6,417,996	July 2002	BUDDE			
	US 6,084,747	07/04/2000	TAKAHASHI			
	US 5,710,745	Jan. 1998	GETREUER			
	US 5,963,402	Oct. 1999	EGAWA et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
						NO
	JP 5- 128616	05/25/1993	JAPAN			
	JP 6-60585	03/4/1994	JAPAN			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.0577USC1	Application Number: filed here within
	Applicant: MURAKAMI et al.	
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	JP 10-312502	11/24/1998	JAPAN				
	JP 9-245449	09/19/1997	JAPAN				
	JP 10-261249	09/29/1998	JAPAN				
	JP 10-269721	10/9/1998	JAPAN				
	JP 10-269503	10/9/1998	JAPAN				
	JP 4-31469	03/13/1992	JAPAN				
	JP 63-191384	08/8/1988	JAPAN				
	JP 7-129908	May 1995	JAPAN				
	JP 4-254904	Sept. 1992	JAPAN				
	JP 5-325293	Dec. 1993	JAPAN				
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	JP 5-250750	Sept. 1993	JAPAN				
	EP 544302	June 1993	EP				
	EP 566998	Oct. 1993	EP				
	EP 592219	April 1994	EP				
	EP 714094	May 1996	EP				
	JP 63-244432	Oct. 1988	JAPAN				
	JP 4-254904	Sept. 1992	JAPAN				
	JP 5-314404	Nov. 1993	JAPAN				
	JP 10-255205	Sept. 1998	JAPAN				
	JP 2000-132803	May 2000	JAPAN				
	JP 7-210915	Aug. 1995	JAPAN			Partial	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


<b>23552</b> PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE	DATE CONSIDERED
	EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.